

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the non-final Office Action mailed on June 7, 2007. No fee is due in connection with this Response. The Director is authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1818. If such a withdrawal is made, please indicate the Attorney Docket No. 112857-509 on the account statement.

Claims 11-20 are pending in this application and stand rejected. Of the rejected Claims, only Claim 11 is independent. Claims 1-10 were previously cancelled. In the Office Action, Claims 14 and 18-20 are objected to and Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102. In response, Claims 11, 13, 14 and 18 have been amended and Claims 21-23 have been added. The amendment does not add new matter. In view of the amendment and/or for the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections are improper and should be withdrawn.

Claims 18-20 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. See, Office Action, page 4. In response, Applicants have added new Claims 21-23. Claim 21 essentially includes the claimed subject matter as defined in Claims 11 and 18, Claim 22 essentially includes the subject matter as defined in Claims 11, 18 and 19 and Claim 23 essentially includes the subject matter as defined in Claims 11, 18, 19 and 20. Accordingly, new Claims 21-23 should be rendered allowable.

In the Office Action, Claims 14 and 18 are objected to. Specifically, the Patent Office alleges that the following phrases lack clear antecedent basis: (i) "said signal recording area" in Claim 14 and (ii) "the recording and/or reproducing apparatus" in Claim 18. In response, Claims 14 and 18 have been amended to address the informalities cited by the Patent Office. Accordingly, the objections to Claims 14 and 18 are rendered moot.

In the Office Action, Claims 11-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Japanese Patent No. JP 07-006493 to Kurozuka et al. ("Kurozuka"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the reasons set forth below.

As amended, Claim 11 recites, in part, a main cartridge body unit where a back side of said main cartridge body unit opposite said arcuate section is a curved section having a curvature smaller than a curvature of said arcuate section. Applicants have amended independent Claim 11

to recite elements of dependent Claim 13. For example, the curved section allows the main cartridge body unit to be further reduced in size so as to be held in a user's palm. See, specification, page 14, lines 3-12. In contrast, Applicants respectfully submit that *Kurozuka* fails to disclose or suggest every element of the present claims.

Kurozuka fails to disclose or suggest a curved section opposite the arcuate section as required, in part, by independent Claim 11. In fact, *Kurozuka* fails to even disclose or suggest a curved section. Instead, *Kurozuka* is drawn to straight section opposite the arcuate section. See, *Kurozuka*, Figure 2. Patent Office admits the same (i.e. the radius of curvature is infinity). See, Office Action, page 3, lines 12-17. By definition, something that is curved deviates from straightness in a smooth, continuous fashion. In other words, a curved section cannot have a radius equal to, or at, infinity. For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 11 as amended and Claims 12-20 that depend therefrom are novel, nonobvious and distinguishable from the cited reference.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the anticipation rejection with respect to Claims 11-17 be reconsidered and the rejection be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified patent application and earnestly solicit an early allowance of same.

Respectfully submitted,

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